UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/838,299	04/20/2001	David Kerr	19111.0055	1841

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EXAMINER
NGUYEN BA, PAUL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/838,299	KERR ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Paul Nguyen-Ba	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _10 May 2005_.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
   closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-19_ is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-19_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☒ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

   1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
      application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

1.   This action is responsive to Applicant Amendment, filed 12/28/2004.

2.   Claims 1-19 are currently pending. Claims 1, 8, 14, and 17 are independent claims.

Priority

3.   Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers,

have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5.   Claims 1-6, 8-10, 14, 15, 17, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Cavendish et al. ("Cavendish"), U.S. Patent No. 5,408,659.

Independent Claims 1, 8, 14, 17 and Dependent Claims 2 and 10

Cavendish teaches a method and processing system for defining a link between first and

second applications windows on a processing system (see Abstract), the processing system

having a database (see Fig. 2; col. 7, lines 25-28) and at least one remote end station (col. 5, lines

61-66 → CPU with connected display device) coupled to the database a communications system,

operating the end station so as to:

access a first applications window (see Fig. 3; col. 8, lines 1-14);

cause the processing system to enter a link defining mode and access second applications

window, thereby causing the processing system to define link between the first and second

applications windows; in response to accessing the second applications window; (see Figs. 3-6;

col. 8, lines 10-61 → **link pane class application framework** enables implementation of a link

defining mode wherein a user may define a link between a first and second application window

by simply accessing a first or second applications window by dragging the icon access the

respective locations in either); and

generate link data defining the link, the link data being stored on the database (see Fig.

2; col. 7, lines 25-28 → relational database).

Claims 3, 9, and 15

Cavendish further teaches displaying the applications window on a display of the end

station (see Figs. 3-6).

Claim 4

Cavendish further teaches the link being defined *to allow the second applications window to be accessed directly from the first applications window* (see Figs. 3-6; col. 8, lines 10-61 → simply drag the icon representing the second application onto the first application window using the click-and-drag method to all second applications window to be accessed directly from the first applications window).

Claims 5 and 6

Cavendish further teaches presenting the *link (defined as an icon) within the first applications window* (see Figs. 3 and 6; col. 8, lines 23-31 → an object which associates a point in one object with a point in another object is called a link).

Claim 18

Cavendish further teaches a database *storing applications data associated with the first and second applications windows* (see Fig. 2; col. 7, lines 25-28 → relational database).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7.   Claims 7, 11-13, 16, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Cavendish et al. ("Cavendish"), U.S. Patent No. 5,408,659, in view of Cragun, U.S. Patent

No. 6,177,936.

Claims 7, 11, 16, and 19

Cavendish teaches a method and processing system for defining a link between first and

second applications windows on a processing system (see Abstract), the processing system

having a database (see Fig. 2; col. 7, lines 25-28) and at least one remote end station (col. 5, lines

61-66 → CPU with connected display device) coupled to the database a communications system

with respect to independent claims 1, 8, 14, and 17 as discussed above.

Cavendish does not specifically teach the use of a *respective identifier, wherein the link*

data is stored in accordance with the respective user identifier such that each user can define

respective links.

However, Cragun teaches a system and method for providing contextual information for

multiple windows wherein a user profile is maintained for the purpose of storing a user's

preferences for use at a later date (see Figs. 8 and 9; col. 8, lines 27-33).

Since Cavendish and Cragun are both from the same field of endeavor, the purposes

disclosed by Cragun would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Cavendish. It would

have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the

art to modify the teaching of Cavendish with the teachings of Cragun to include a user profile,

identified by an identifier, for storing the link defining preferences of the user for the purpose of

storing a user's preferences for use at a later date.

Claim 12

Cavendish teaches the processing system with respect to claim 10 as discussed above, but does not specifically teach the storing the link data in the database in accordance with the user password.

However, Cragun teaches a system and method for providing contextual information for multiple windows wherein a user profile is maintained for the purpose of storing a *particular* user's preferences for use at a later date (see Figs. 8 and 9; col. 8, lines 27-33).

It was commonly known to those of ordinary skill in the art to use passwords to ensure that only the appropriate user can access the database storing his/her profile. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include a user password for the purpose of accessing a particular user profile in a database.

Claim 13

Cavendish teaches the processing system with respect to claim 12 as discussed above, but does not specifically teach the end station processor being adapted to receive and transfer the user identifier to the center processor, and the center processor being adapted to transfer any link data stored in the database.

However, Cragun teaches a system and method for providing contextual information for multiple windows wherein a user profile is maintained for the purpose of storing a *particular* user's preferences for use at a later date (see Figs. 8 and 9; col. 8, lines 27-33).

It was commonly known to those of ordinary skill in the art to provide a processor

adapted to receive and transfer a user identifier to a center processor to transfer data stored in a

database for the purpose of providing storing and providing access to link definitions to the

appropriate user. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

having ordinary skill in the art to provide a processor adapted to receive and transfer a user

identifier to a center processor to transfer data stored in a database for the purpose of providing

storing and providing access to link definitions to the appropriate user.

Response to Arguments

8.   Applicant's arguments filed 12/28/2004 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

Examiner Note: Examiner assumes references to Knudsen (Applicant Argument - pg.

10) were meant to be directed to the Cavendish reference.

Applicant first contends that Cavendish does not disclose or suggest that the processing

system defines a link between first and second applications windows *in response to accessing the*

second applications window. Examiner respectfully disagrees.

The link pane class application framework enables implementation of a link defining

mode wherein a user may define a link between a first and second application window by simply

writing data to a mass-storage device (see col. 4 lines 4-27 and col. 7 lines 24-46) (*compare with*

"accessing" – defined by www.pcwebopedia.com as: "using" or "reading data from or writing

data to a mass storage device") by dragging the icon to the respective locations in either a first or

second applications window and reading data therefrom (see Figs. 3-6; col. 8, lines 10-61).

Applicant further contends that Cragun does not disclose or suggest the use of a

respective identifier. Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Cragun teaches storing user-settings/preferences in defining hierarchical link services

between windows (see col. 10 lines 22-45 *et seq.*). It is inherent that the user-setting/preferences

would have respective identifiers to specify or designate the settings in storage for later retrieval.

If a user-setting/preference was not specified or designated with an identifier, there would exist

no means by which to save or execute the user-settings/preferences.

Conclusion

9.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing

date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Paul Nguyen-Ba whose telephone number is (571) 272-4094.

The examiner can normally be reached on 10 am - 6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PNB

JOSEPH FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER